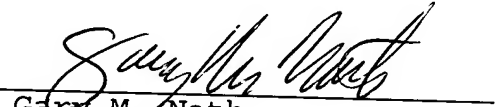


REMARKS

The above amendments have been made to the specification to make reference the earlier filed applications as shown in Attachment A. The amendments to the claims have been made to further prosecute the application. No new matter has been added. A clean copy of the claims is shown as Attachment B which is to be examined.

Respectfully submitted,
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MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION

Attorney docket no. 25582A

Preliminary Amendment

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ATTACHMENT A

On page 1 of the application, after the title and before the heading of the first paragraph, insert the following sentence:

--This application is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application 09/775,298 filed February 1, 2001 which is a 371 of PCT/IL99/00431 with an international date of August 5, 1999 and claims priority to Israel application 125659 filed August 5, 1998.--

ATTACHMENT B

Cancel claims 1-37 of the of the International Preliminary Examination Report amended sheets(annexes) and add the following new claims:

Claims:

38. (new) A probing member for use in an apparatus for determining surface topology of a teeth portion, having a sensing end face for placing proximal to the teeth portion and being in the form of an elongated transparent body having a front face, an end mirror, and top, bottom and side walls extending therebetween, said sensing end face being associated with said bottom wall's outer surface adjacent said end mirror, said bottom wall having a front section extending inwardly from said front face transversely to said top wall and a rear section substantially co-directional with said top wall, said front face being inclined relative to said top wall so as to ensure that light beams incident on the front face perpendicularly thereto impinge said top wall at an angle providing their total internal reflection therefrom and further bouncing, by means of total internal reflection, between the top wall and said rear section of the bottom wall towards said end mirror to be redirected thereby towards said sensing end face.

39. (new) A probing member according to Claim 38, wherein said sensing end face is in the form of a transparent plate fixed to said bottom wall's outer surface and spaced therefrom by an air gap.

MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION

Attorney docket no. 25582A

Preliminary Amendment

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40. (new) A probing member according to Claim 38, which, when seen in its side view, has a thickness that is essentially greater along said front section of the bottom wall than along said rear section of the bottom wall.

41. (new) A probing member for use in an apparatus for determining surface topology of a teeth portion, the probing member having a sensing end face for placing proximal to the teeth portion and being in the form of an elongated transparent body having a front face, an end mirror, and top, bottom and side walls extending therebetween, said sensing end face being in the form of a transparent plate fixed to said bottom wall's outer surface and spaced therefrom by an air gap.

42. (new) A probing member according to Claim 39, which, when seen in its side view, has a thickness that is essentially greater along said front section of the bottom wall than along said rear section of the bottom wall.